

Senate Resolution 1347

By: Senator Mullis of the 53rd

A RESOLUTION

1 Commending Joe Leonard and AirTran Airways; and for other purposes.

2 WHEREAS, Joe Leonard was hired by AirTran Airways as Chief Executive Officer on
3 January 8, 1999, and remained in that position until November 1, 2007; and

4 WHEREAS, Mr. Leonard went on to become chairman of the board for AirTran Airways;
5 and

6 WHEREAS, Mr. Leonard is a native of Augusta, Georgia, and he is an active member of the
7 community serving on many boards and associations, including the Woodruff Arts Center,
8 the Metro Atlanta Chamber of Commerce, the Atlanta Committee for Progress, the 191 Club,
9 and the Commerce Club; and

10 WHEREAS, when he began his career with AirTran Airways in 1999, it employed 3,000
11 crew members, and today that number has reached 9,000 employees; and

12 WHEREAS, in 1999, AirTran Airways operated flights to 30 cities, and today they fly to 58
13 cities; and

14 WHEREAS, AirTran Airways operates the world's largest low-cost carrier hub; they are the
15 second largest carrier at Hartsfield-Jackson Atlanta International Airport; they operate the
16 youngest all-Boeing fleet in North America; and 7,000 member of their crew are Georgians;
17 and

18 WHEREAS, all three of AirTran Airways' reservation call centers are located in Georgia at
19 centers in Atlanta, Carrollton, and Savannah; all their training programs for pilots, flight
20 attendants, mechanics, and customer service crew members are conducted in Georgia; and
21 all pilots and most flight attendants are domiciled in Georgia; and

1 WHEREAS, AirTran Airways' maintenance and engineering operations are based in Atlanta
2 at its Technical Operations Center located at the airport; and

3 WHEREAS, it is abundantly fitting and proper that this outstanding Georgian and this
4 outstanding Georgia business be appropriately recognized.

5 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE that the members of this body
6 join together to recognize Joe Leonard and AirTran Airways for the outstanding service they
7 provide to the State of Georgia.

8 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Secretary of the Senate is hereby authorized and
9 directed to transmit an appropriate copy of this resolution to Joe Leonard.